(b) what was the actual quantity appropriated by him ;

(c) who was in charge of this range at this time ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(a) 12 wind fallen and standing dry jungle-wood trees.

(b) 11 trees of 14 logs which yielded 26-1-19-15 candies were cut and removed after payment of seigniorage and obtaining proper passes.

(c) The Junior Divisional Forest Officer, Mr. T. Narayana Menon, during the former part of the currency of this sale and acting Divisional Forest Officer, Mr. J. H. Williams, during the latter part.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Was any timber removed illicitly by the Vicar ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—No.

The Range Officer, Mr. Williams.

100. Mr. T.A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) why was Mr. Williams, the Palappalli Range Officer, transferred ;

(b) who was appointed Divisional Officer when Mr. T. Narayana Menon took leave recently ;

(c) was the new incumbent senior to Mr. Williams ;

(d) has Mr. Williams acted as Divisional Officer ; if so, when and the period ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(a) In the interests of service.

(b) Second Grade Ranger, Mr. C. Govinda Menon, in charge of the plantations.

(c) No.

(d) Yes, on four occasions.

From	19	5	1100	to	18	7	1100
,,	2	3	1101	to	6	4	1101
,,	22	6	1101	to	21	7	1101
,,	16	11	1101	to	31	1	1102

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Why was not Mr. Williams appointed, Sir ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—His conduct was found unsatisfactory.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What was the nature of his unsatisfactory conduct ? It is stated here that he has acted four times.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—May I answer, Sir ?

President.—Why do you ask my permission to answer ? If you have any objection in furnishing the answer, you must object to answer on proper grounds, namely that the supple-

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

mentary question does not arise or the information asked for is confidential.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—It would reflect on the conduct of the subordinate concerned. So I do not know whether it could be given.

President.—At times you will have to take the responsibility upon yourself whether a particular answer in the circumstances of the case could be given.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—There was a case of illicit removal of timber against a certain man and the Vicar. The Perambara Vicar, whose name is given in the previous question, was aiding the man who was concerned in the illicit removal of timber. Mr. Williams aided the agent of the Vicar in the removal. That was the reason why he was not given the chance.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—But it was stated in the answer to the previous question that there was no case of illicit removal of timber by the Perambara Vicar.

President.—Is it by the Vicar ?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Or is it by the agent of the Vicar ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—The agent was the man who was concerned in the illicit removal.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—When was he last appointed as a Divisional Officer ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—When Mr. Narayana Menon went on leave.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I want the date of his appointment.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Who recommended him, Sir ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—I recommended him.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is he related to the Conservator ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Yes. He is related to the Conservator.

President.—The relationship is no disqualification for a Government appointment. If a man is related to the head of a department, is he to suffer by such relationship ?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It should neither be a qualification nor a disqualification ; that is all.

President.—I quite agree. That should not influence the decision.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly